IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application: Z. Jason Geng

Application No.: Unassigned

Filed: January 30, 2004

Title: "Three-Dimensional Ear Biometrics System

and Method"

Confirmation No.: Unassigned

Examiner: Unassigned

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATMENT

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

(X) under 37 CFR 1.97(b), or

(Within three months of filing national application; or date of entry of national application; or before mailing date of first office action on the merits; whichever occurs last)

() under 37 CFR 1.97 (c) together with either a:

() Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e), or

() a \$180.00 fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p), or

(After the CFR 1.97 (b) time period, but before final action or notice of allowance, whichever occurs first)

() under 37 CFR 1.97 (d) together with a:

() Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1) or (2), and

() a \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).

(Filed after final action, a notice of allowance, on or before payment of the issue fee)

Please charge to Deposit Account the sum of \$0.00. At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 18-0013 pursuant to 37 CFR 1.25.

- (X) Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO 1449 Information Disclosure Statement together with any required copies of patents, publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believe(s) may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56.
- () A concise explanation of the relevance of foreign language patents, foreign language publications and other foreign language information listed on PTO Form 1449, as presently understood by the individuals(s) designated in 37 CFR 1.56 (c) most knowledgeable about the content is given on the attached sheet, or where a foreign language patent is cited in a search report or other action by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, an English language version of the search report or action which indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is listed on form PTO 1449 and is enclosed herewith.

It is requested that the information disclosed herein be made of record in this application.

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(X) I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to: MS Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Date of Deposit: January 30, 2004

Typed Name: Rebecca R. Schow

Respectfully submitted.

Steven L. Nichols (Reg. No.: 40,326)

Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)

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Date: January 30, 2004

Index the Panerwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMR control number

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO			Complete if Known		
			Application Number	Unassigned	
IN	IFORMATION DIS	CLOSURE	Filing Date	January 30, 2004	
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)			First Named Inventor	Z. Jason Geng	
			Art Unit	Unassigned	
			Examiner Name	Unassigned	
Sheet	1	of 1	Attorney Docket Number	40169-0059	

			U. S. PATENT D	OCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ^{2 (# known)}	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		^{US-} 6,028,672	02-22-2000	Geng	
		US- 6,147,760	11-14-2000	Geng	
		^{US-} 6,556,706 B1	04-29-2003	Geng	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ^{3 'Number 4} 'Kind Code ⁵ (<i>if known</i>)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
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Examiner	 Date	
Signature	Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.